9,950081 09/950081 09/12/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroya OKUMURA et al.

Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. NEW

Docket No. 2001-1255A

Filed September 12, 2001

SEPARATOR FOR SOLID POLYMER TYPE FUEL CELL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above identified application:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 17 and 18 as follows:

- 17. (Amended) A process for producing a separator for a solid polymer-type fuel cell, which comprises molding the resin composition recited in Claim 1 by a resin molding method.
- 18. (Amended) A process for producing a separator for a solid polymer-type fuel cell, which comprises kneading the resin composition recited in Claim 1 with a pressure kneader and molding the kneaded composition.

Please cancel without prejudice Claim 20.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove the improper multiple dependencies. In addition, claim 20 has been cancelled without prejudice as being a duplicate of rewritten claim 17.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroya OKUMURA et al.

By:

Warren M. Cheek, Jr. (Registration No. 33,367

Attorney for Applicants

WMC/pth Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 September 12, 2001

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

- 17. (Amended) A process for producing <u>a</u> [the] separator [recited in Claim 16] <u>for a solid polymer-type fuel cell</u>, which comprises molding the resin composition recited in Claim 1 by a resin molding method.
- 18. (Amended) A process [according to Claim 17,] for producing a separator for a solid polymer-type fuel cell, which [comprising] comprises kneading the resin composition recited in Claim 1 with a pressure kneader and molding the kneaded [one] composition.